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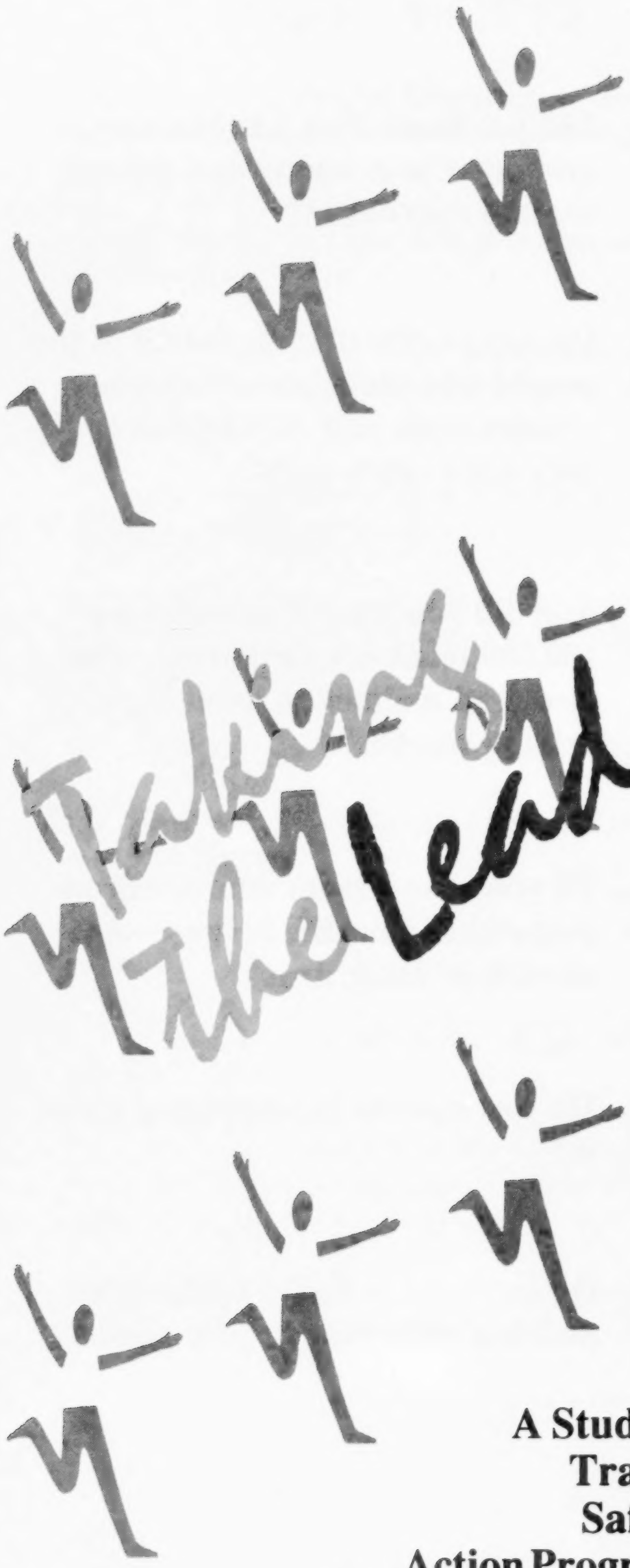

A Student Traffic Safety Action Program

TD 8.2:

Did you know that 3,000 teenagers are killed in drinking and driving crashes every year?

Do you realize that up to half of the people who die in motor vehicle crashes each year could be saved if they wore safety belts?

And did you know that each year 130,000 teens are disfigured, crippled, and maimed in drinking and driving crashes?

Do you have friends who are dropping out of your life because of alcohol or other drugs?

Do you want to do something about it?

Do you want to be the leader who makes a difference in your school?

Taking the Lead

is a program for students and teachers to help fight the problem of non-use of safety belts, underage drinking or other drug taking and driving. TAKING THE LEAD! is divided into four chapters and a resource section:

- *Chapter 1—Getting Started* tells how you can develop a clear, factual message about traffic safety.
- Chapter 2—*Setting Goals* explains how to develop the skills needed to establish goals and prepare action plans.
- *Chapter 3—Safety Activities* contains traffic safety activity ideas with insight into what has worked well for other groups and what has failed so you can avoid making the same mistakes.
- *Chapter 4—Putting It All Together* explains how to pull all the parts of your project into an organized whole, a strong effort that will survive even after you graduate.
- *Resources for Student Leaders* contains reproducible handouts of background information, fact sheets or fun quizzes to distribute to your group, information you can use in speeches or in articles for your school newspaper... and much more.

ARE YOU A LEADER? An effective leader needs to set realistic goals. TAKING THE LEAD! shows you how through six basic LEADER steps:

- **L**ist
- **E**dit
- **A**dd
- **D**ecide
- **E**xecute
- **R**eview

TAKING THE LEAD offers information and ideas for organizing a comprehensive student traffic safety program. By taking the lead, YOU can make a difference.

Quiz Answers

1. T. Car crashes are the greatest cause of death of young people. **2. F.** Your chances of death or serious injury are 4 times greater when thrown out of a car in a crash. **3. T.** Alcohol and other drugs are considered a major factor in teenage motor vehicle deaths. **4. F.** Most crashes occur within 25 miles of home, at speeds under 40 mph. **5. F.** The alcohol content in one 12-ounce can of beer equals a five-ounce glass of wine or one and a half ounces of whiskey, even if it's a mixed drink. They all pack the same punch. **6. F.** Injuries are almost always more severe when belts are not worn. **7. F.** Everyone should use safety belts. Back seat passengers need belts to avoid hitting other passengers and being thrown around or out of the vehicle in a sudden stop or crash. **8. F.** A shoulder belt should never be worn without the lap belt. Adding a shoulder belt to a lap belt doubles its effectiveness by restraining the upper torso in a crash. **9. F.** Less than one-half of one percent of all crashes involve fire or submersion. You are more likely to escape if you are conscious and unhurt. **10. F.** Only time will sober up someone who has had too much to drink. It takes up to two hours for the body to metabolize one alcoholic drink.

SAFETY QUIZ

Take this quiz to test your knowledge of driving safety. Mark each statement True or False.

1.___Young people are more likely to die from injuries received in motor vehicle crashes than from any other single cause.

2.___If I'm involved in a serious car crash, my chances of injury will be less if I'm thrown clear of the vehicle.

3.___Alcohol is a factor in about half of all motor vehicle deaths for young people.

4.___Safety belts are a good idea for long trips and highway travel, but they aren't necessary for short trips at low speeds.

5.___Drinking just one beer won't affect driving.

6.___Safety belts actually cause more severe injuries than they prevent.

7.___There's no reason for back seat passengers to wear safety belts.

8.___I don't need to wear both a lap belt and a shoulder belt.

9.___If I'm in a car that is on fire or submerged under water after a crash, safety belts are likely to trap me inside.

10.___Coffee, cold showers and exercise help someone to sober up fast.

(Answers inside)

Taking The Lead

includes:

- **Brochure**
- **Video presentation**
- **Student handbook**
- **Teacher's guide**
- **Display items**

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

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